

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
/087 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:DVKILLION:LFS

APPROVED BY AF:WBEDMONDSON

UNA:AHOLLOWAY

NEA/AFN:WWEISLOGEL

-----191839Z 089495 /44

O 191824Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 115223

MAPUTO FOR USDEL, VIENNA FOR VICE PRESIDENT DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, SS

SUBJ: PRESS GUIDANCE ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S CONTACT  
WITH POLASIRIO REPS

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT  
SPOKESMAN'S USE MAY 19 IF ASKED:

Q. AMBASSADOR YOUNG MET A POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVE IN  
MAPUTO YESTERDAY. WAS THIS PURPOSEFUL? DOES IT REPRESENT  
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ANY CHANGE IN OUR POLICY ON THE SAHARA?

A. AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS APPROACHED YESTERDAY IN HOTEL LOBBY  
BY POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVE WHO ASKED TO MEET HIM. SINCE  
YOUNG HAS BEEN MEETING WITH ALL WHO HAVE BEEN REQUESTING  
OPPORTUNITY TO TALK, HE SAT DOWN WITH HIM BRIEFLY ON HOTEL  
TERRACE. THE POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVE OUTLINED THE

POLISARIO CASE AND ASKED FOR U.S. CONSIDERATION OF THEIR SIDE OF THE WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE. AMBASSADOR YOUNG HEARD HIM OUT, BUT MADE NO COMMENT. AS AMBASSADOR YOUNG EXPLAINED TO NEWS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE SPOT, NO RECOGNITION OF THE POLISARIO WAS IMPLIED BY THE MEETING. (IF PRESSED FURTHER) THERE IS REALLY NOTHING I CAN ADD EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT THE MEETING WAS A CASUAL ONE.

Q. WHAT IS U.S. POLICY ON THE WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE?

A. THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINS A POSITION OF NEUTRALITY ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE, WHILE ENCOURAGING THE INTERESTED PARTIES TO WORK TOWARD A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

Q. BUT DIDN'T THE U.S. VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE "PRO-MOROCCAN" RESOLUTION AND ABSTAIN ON THE "P;O-ALGERIAN" RESOLUTION IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON DECEMBER 10, 1975?

A. OUR VOTE ON THE TWO RESOLUTIONS, BOTH OF WHICH PASSED, WAS BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT THE MADRID TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, WHICH HAD BEEN SIGNED A FEW WEEKS EARLIER, OFFERED ONE OF THE APPROPRIATE BASES FOR SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, CONTINGENCY PLANNING  
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**Review Markings:**  
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